

The Viewfinder

Sun City Photography Club Newsletter
May 2019



Floating in Santa Elena Canyon, Big Bend NP

Rita Johnston, Photographer of the Month



President's Corner

Dr. Howie DiBlasi
2019 Photography Club President

Spring and our Photography SIGS are in full swing!

Be sure to check out all of the opportunities to participate in the Photography Club activities, meeting and SIG'S. Samples include; beginner classes in Nikon and Canon Photography, Photoshop Sig, Nature, Mentor Group, Fun Photo, Android and iPhone classes, Travel & Photo SIG's, PSA Digital, Koffee Klatch, Competition SIG, and Photography Exhibits at several locations around Sun City and Georgetown.

At our May 1, membership meeting, Jeff Goldberg will be displaying an interactive exhibit of Vintage Nikon Cameras. Come and visit with Jeff at 1:45 and remember the days of 35 MM Film cameras. Guest Speaker is Wes Odell.

Photo Club Studio Availability

Activity Center, Game Rooms 1 & 2

Monday Noon - 4

Wednesday 8 am to noon

Fridays 9 - 5 pm

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May at a Glance



Date	Event	Time
Wed, May 1	Travel SIG	9:00
Mon, May 1	Activity Center Hang Date	10:00
Fri, May 3	iPhone Photography SIG	9:00
Fri, May 3	Info Meeting for Disney Trip	1:30
Fri, May 3	Healing Arts Hang Date	3:30
Mon, May 6	Beginning Nikon Photography	9:00
Mon, May 6	Mentor Discussion	Noon-2:00
Mon, May 6	Photoshop SIG	2:15 - 4:15
Wed, May 8	Photoshop - Altered Reality	10:00
Fri, May 10	Koffee Klatch	10:00
Mon, May 13	Beginning Nikon Photography	9:00 - 11:45
Mon, May 13	Mentor Discussion	Noon
Wed, May 15	The Retreat Hang Date	10:00
Mon, May 20	Beginning Nikon Photography	9:00 - 11:45
Mon, May 20	Mentor Discussion	Noon-2:00
Wed, May 22	Canon Digital Photography	9:00-11:30
Fri, May 24	Competition SIG	10:00-Noon
Fri, May 24	Nature SIG	1:00 - 4:00
Fri, May 24	Fun Foto Social	2:00
Sat, May 25	Legacy Grille Hang Date	10:00
Mon, May 27	Mentor Discussion	Noon-2:00
Fri, May 31	Board Meeting	2:00

May General Meeting

**May 1, 2019 Cowan Center,
Social 1:45 PM Meeting 2:15 PM**

Agenda

**Announcements
Field Trip Report
Financial Report
SIG Reports
What's Up Doc
Jeff Goldberg - Nikon Collection**

**The Club will provide coffee,
water and cookies.**

**Send one or two of your images that
exemplify the theme "Spring has
Sprung: to**

**Program -- Exhibit Consultant
Wes Odell**

**SCphotoclub@outlook.com
no later than Sunday, April 28**

**Subject of the Month:
Spring Has Sprung**

Be Sure to Visit

**St David's Georgetown Hospital Healing Arts
Gallery Exhibit**

May 3 – July 5, 2019

The Photography Club's exhibit for the St David's Georgetown Hospital Healing Arts Gallery will be hung on May 3rd and remain until July 5th. Marge Odell coordinated this exhibit.

Photographer of the Month
May 2019
Rita Johnston



I am a native Texan and spent my college years at the University of Texas in Austin. After retiring in Dallas, my husband, Ken, and I decided in 2015 that we would prefer living in an active retirement community. We moved to Sun City in August 2016, and it is the perfect place for us.

Vacation photography is how I began taking photos. I first used small Panasonic and Canon travel cameras. Once the larger zooms came out, I liked to shoot with the Nikon Coolpix P900 (83x). Most recently, I have been using the Sony RX10iv and find it very versatile. My favorite photography subjects are birds, wildlife, natural landscapes, and people. Since we travel in the spring and summer in a Newmar motorhome, there are many opportunities to photograph these favorite subjects.

As a newcomer to the club, I was encouraged when I placed first in the Novice Category in 2017 with "The Prince of Lorraine." I was thrilled in 2018 when I placed first in the People Category for "Georgetown Tattoo Girl." Thanks to all the club mentors, and to Faith Burns for my portrait photo. Thank you for taking the time to view my gallery. [Click Here for Gallery Photos](#) (**Note:** you may be asked to log into the website first.)

Each month a club member is featured to help all of us get to know each other just a little bit better. View Rita Johnston's three printed photos at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center in April. Sixteen of Marsha's digital images are posted in a gallery on the club's website, along with her biography.

A special thanks to Walt Grabowski for coordinating this exhibit.

*Solo Wall Showcase
May 1 through May 31*

Susan Gavron



Theme- Texas Nature- All Things Great and Small

Texas nature is diverse and fascinating. The photos represent a small aspect of a grand environment. The small and fragile dragonflies, the beautiful Butterflies, the flowers, the baby birds, the large and graceful birds. The different mounting methods reflect the theme- from small 8x8 canvas frames to the large 16x20 frames. The alternate ways to display photos- canvas, glass and metal are also representative of a way to present in this digital age.

A native of Long Island, NY, Sue is a 6 year resident of Sun City after living and working in Bowling Green, Ohio for 38 years.

Sue has no formal long term photographic training but has taken classes and workshops over the years. Since her move to Sun City, Sue has fallen in love with anything related to nature--a welcome departure from her 15 years of fire photography as a volunteer firefighter.

I keep listening to more experienced people and tuck away little pearls. This is one of my “go-to” activities for serenity and peace.

I hope they are for you also.

Special thanks to Holly Moore for coordinating this exhibit



Member Awards and Recognition



What happened? The only person who sent me any awards won during the month of April was Mitch Michielutti, who received 8th place for his photo “Up the Road” in DP Review’s Road challenge



Sun Rays Recognition May 2019



Congratulations to Faith Burns whose photo is featured on the May issue of Sun Rays.



Sherry McRae's "Snake in a Tree"



Retreat Grand Opening
Sherry McRae



Golf photos courtesy
of David Werner



Portrait of Curly Clark
David Werner



Radio Control Modelers Open House
Anne Marshall



Memorial Day Ceremony
Anne Marshall

Check out many, many more photos taken by the talented photographers of Sun City's Photography Club in May's issue of Sun Rays.

On-Site Exhibits

The Retreat Amenity Center

This new venue exhibits 15 images each month. The hang date for May is at 10:00 am on May 15. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Sherry McRae
topspin53@gmail.com



The Activity Center



The Activity Center exhibits 17 images each month. Hang date for this location is May 1st. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Dean Ginther
dean.Ginther@gmail.com

Cowan Creek Amenity Center

This venue exhibits 15 images each month. The next hang date is on the June 4th at 10:00 at Cowan Creek. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Sally Graham,
sgraham2385@yahoo.com



Legacy Hills Grille

This location exhibits five (5) themed photos in the foyer. The hang date for May is on the 25th at 10:00. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Marcela Stegemueller
marcelastegemueller@gmail.com



Off Site Call for Entries

Georgetown Public Library Art Exhibit “Williamson County Through the Lens”

August 30 - September 24, 2019

The Photograph Club of Sun City will present a Photographic Exhibit Titled “Williamson County through the Lens” In the Georgetown Public Library Cafe Gallery. Our exhibit will be hung on August 30, 2019 and taken down on September 24, 2019.

The theme of the exhibit is “Williamson County Through the Lens”. The exhibit will showcase our artistic through-the-lens view of the sights, places, people, wildlife, and things we love to photograph in Georgetown and Williamson County. This leaves things pretty much open as long as it is a photo taken in Williamson County and is family friendly. **The photo entered must not have been exhibited in the Georgetown Public Library at any time in the past.**

There is available space for 28 photos with a maximum outside frame width and height of 26”. To allow as many members as possible to participate in this exhibit, the maximum dimensions must be observed. The minimum glass size is 11”x14” with a minimum picture size of 8”x10”, nothing smaller. **Photos will be accepted on a first come, first reserved basis.**

All artwork must have a strong and securely fastened wire for the artwork to hang flat. The artwork must have a label on the upper left corner of the back indicating the artist’s name, title, phone number or email, and price or “NFS”.

We hope to exhibit only one photo per photographer.

Registration will begin on June 24, 2019. The last day to register is August 23, 2019 so please sign up early after registration begins.

The hang date is Friday, August 30, 2019 from 9:00am until 11:00am at the table located near the Red Poppy Coffee Co. counter in the library.

A reception will be held at the Cafe Gallery on Friday, September 13, 2019 - 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Any questions, please email Will Chapman at willchapman37@gmail.com or call him at (H) (512) 869-6609 or (C) (512) 731-6562.

Off Site Call for Entries, continued

"Big Tex," The State Fair of Texas, has just released its 2019 "Call for Entries" for Photography in its "Creative Arts Contests" catalog. Key points in the Call are:

1. 40 Categories, each with Ribbon Winners, limit one photo per category.
 - Separate Categories for Professionals
 - Separate categories for Color and Black & White
 - All photos must have been taken after Jan 1, 2018
 - Print Sizes: from 5x7 through 11x14
 - All prints to be affixed to a 11x14 mat board or foam core (No top mats nor frames, nor glass, nor metal prints, nor date or name on image.)
2. Photos must reflect scenes from Texas.
3. Entry fees per item: \$6 except Seniors which are \$2 each.
4. Submissions: Mail-In due July 19th
5. Entry Forms and Brochure available via CREATIVEARTS@BIGTEX.COM

If you are an artist, there is a separate Fine Arts Contest described in the same Form, etc.

Special Learning Opportunity

Randy Dyskstra will be our guest speaker in August. He is currently offering a workshop that many in our club might be interested in. The cost is \$40.

Here's a link to the information: <https://www.rdykstraphoto.com/raptor>



Dr. Howie DiBlasi
Class Instructor

May Class

Beginning Nikon Digital Photography Class

If you've always wanted to take better photos OR just get started with photography, you'll be pleased to know this is the course for YOU!

With this course, Beginning NIKON Digital Photography, you'll learn everything you need to know to confidently use your camera and take home photos you are proud to share. You'll become acquainted with the basic features of digital cameras and learn how each plays a role in creating great photographs.

THREE Nikon CLASS SESSION TOPICS:

- How your digital camera works
- Photographic Exposure Principals
- Camera Settings
- The Importance of Light
- Composition: The Art of Photography



Using non-technical language the course explains how to have fun with photography!

Class Dates: May 6, May 13, May 20

Class Times: 9:00 - 11:45 am

Registration is now open



Fieldtrips With Jim

Planned field trip to Newman's Castle on Sat. May 18th has been cancelled.

In a phone conversation that Jim had with the owner, Mr. Newman himself, he was told that anyone using a camera (not just a cellphone) would be charged a "Photographer's Fee" of \$25.00 on top of the normal ticket fee. Even though the owner was assured that we were amateurs, we are all retired, and that we didn't intend to publish any of our photos in magazines, etc., he held firm. Unfortunately Jim had to tell him that there was no choice but to cancel the trip.

Apologies to all of you for getting your hopes up. The castle is a fun trip, but if we can't take photos with our nice cameras, why go?

So, there will be NO field trip in May.

Special Interest Groups



Nature SIG

Coordinator, Carlos Rio

scnaturephotosig@gmail.com

[Click Here for the Nature SIG webpage](#)

May's Theme: Flowers and Spring Scenes

Meetings are generally scheduled on the 4th Fridays of the month from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Activity Center's Card Rooms 1 & 2, known to us as "The Studio". At the beginning of each meeting we hope to have a presentation/lecture related to a theme planned for the following months.

So bring your 3-4 photos on that month's theme, on a thumb-disk, at any pixel resolution (but, at least 1,200 pixels along the long edge of the picture so it projects well). After our discussions, we choose the 6 photos which the group considers the best and put them on the Photo Club's Newsletter and/or Nature Photography SIG website page.

We hope to see you there!

April's Theme: Sunrise, Sunset, Fog, Lightning and Bad Weather



Chris Meyer, Colorado



Allen Utzig, Abiquiu Sunset



Dee Sams, Petit Jean Sunset



Carlos Rio, Tennessee Lightning



Dean Ginther, Davis Mountains Sunset

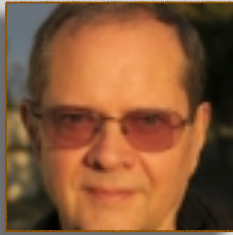


Jim Reichel, Lake Louise

Monthly Themes

May 24 - Flowers and Spring Scenes
 June 28 - Water and Sand
 July 26 - Cactus, Heat and Rocks
 Aug 23 - Skies, Moon, Stars and Sun
 Sept 27 - Lines and Curves
 Oct 25 - No Legs
 Nov 22 - Trees, Leaves and Roots
 Dec 20 - Guys with Wings

Special Interest Groups, continued



Competition SIG

Coordinator, Rick Siersma
richard.j.siersma@gmail.com

Competition SIG Webpage

Club Members are encouraged to attend the SIG's monthly meetings on 4th Friday from 10 am to noon in the Studio (Game rooms 1 & 2 in the Activities Center). Go ahead - take a chance - you will be welcomed and accepted at any level - join us in developing our photographic eye and skills.



Jim Sandham, Clearing Storm



Wes Odell, Calvary Trooper_Nikki



Dee Sams, Giant Tortoise

Special Interest Groups - continued...



iPhone Photography SIG

Coordinator, Bob Bearden

rebsctx@gmail.com

[iPhone Photography SIG Webpage](#)

This SIG's goal is to share the joy and simplicity of iPhone Photography, to improve our photo skills and enjoy sharing our photos taken with our iPhones.

Our meetings will include:

1. Photos: A review of Subject of the Month photos submitted by the membership. Education: We will review a key feature/capability of your iPhone camera each month.
2. Video of the month: We will watch informative presentations by noted iPhone photo educators to help you improve your skills.
3. Photo Editing: We will review how to use the Apple Photos app that came with your iPhone to improve the look of your images.
4. Alternative Camera or Editing apps: We will spot light popular camera and editing apps that you can use on your iPhone.

Meetings are scheduled on the 1st Friday of the month from 9am to noon in the Activity Center's Game Rooms 1 & 2.



Travel Photography SIG

Coordinator, Dr. Howie DiBlasi

howie@frontier.net

[Travel Photography SIG Webpage](#)

If you are passionate about photography, you love to travel, own a camera and wish to capture stunning pictures, this SIG is for you.

This is a place for people who would like to explore new places and destinations, and take great photos. Meet fellow travel enthusiasts and share your photos from around the world. Discover first-hand recommendations on new destinations and ways to travel. Learn how to take amazing photographs on your next trip. Learn about Scene modes and the other dials and menus on your camera.

Find fun, laughs - and new ways to travel to different venues. Whether you are completely new or experienced, we would love to have you. This is a chance for you to meet fellow likeminded people and find travel friends.

Meetings are scheduled on the first Wednesday of the month, 9-11 in Activity Center's Game Rooms 1 & 2

Special Interest Groups - continued ...



PSA Digital SIG

Coordinator, Mitch Michielutti

ibmitch@me.com

PSA Digital SIG Webpage



Our PSA Digital Image SIG meets 8 times a year to compete in PSA inter-club competition. We choose the top 6 photos submitted at our meeting in Nature and Projected Image Divisions (PID). These are then sent to PSA for judging. Great way to evaluate our photo skills compared to other photography clubs. Join us for a journey to another level of learning and enhance your skills and artistry.

Check out the 2018-2019 photos on the PSA Digital's webpage.

PSA Digital Image SIG Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10am.



PSA Print SIG

Coordinators, Glenn Rudd and Cheryl Janssen

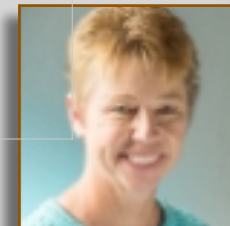
grudd2@yahoo.com or cherylj2013@att.net

PSA Print SIG Webpage



This is both a club and individual competition. For each submittal event, there are awards in each category for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mentions. End of Year certificates and ribbons are also given. This is an International competition with 14 clubs currently participating. Please check the club calendar. SIG meeting attendees are sent email confirmations of these dates.

PSA Print meets the third Wednesday at 8:30 am.



Special Interest Groups - continued...



Photoshop SIG

Coordinator, Allen Utzig

autzig@outlook.com

Photoshop CS-CC SIG Webpage

The Photoshop SIG is made up of four different groups:

In the Photoshop Training Group, the focus is on Using Photoshop

The second group is a Photoshop lab. Drop in and come with their laptop and an image or images and I (and possibly others) will help you practice

The third group is a true Photoshop SIG where we will talk about how we might use Photoshop to improve our photos

The fourth group relates to “altered reality”, that is, compositing two or more images in Photoshop to create a new image.

Each Group meets once a month. ***Please check the Photography Club calendar for the specific dates, times and locations of the meetings.*** Most of the meetings have been scheduled in our PC Studio (Game Rooms 1 & 2)

Discussion Groups



Coffee Klatch

The coffee pot is on!! Join Charlie Byers for coffee and conversation on a wide variety of subjects. If you like, bring photos or videos on a thumb drive to share with the group. Friday, April 12th, 10am - Activities Center GR 1



Discussion Groups, continued



Mentor Discussion Group

Every Monday, Noon - 2:00 pm
Game Rooms 1 & 2, Activity Center

The “*Mentor Discussion Group*” is a hands-on, topic driven, gathering of members who like to discuss specific photographic topics. It is a friendly, casual, group with multi levels of experience from novice to advanced.

The group is open to all Photo Club members AND any member of the Sun City Community who is thinking of joining...you're welcome to attend two meetings to see if it's helpful before joining the Photo Club.

For more in-depth information and schedule of topics, [click here](#)

Contact: Jim Newkirk - newkirk12@gmail.com

Fun Foto Social

May's Fun Foto Social is on May 24th from 4:00 - 6:00 in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, Activities Center.

Please bring enough goodies, snacks, finger food, etc. to share with the rest of the group. As always, remember to bring your own choice of beverage, unless you just like the Activities Center water better.

Please resize your images down to 1200 pixels on the long side (which is more pixels than we need anyway). That way you can attach all of your files to a single e-mail message.

2. Attach your photos to an **E-MAIL MESSAGE** sent directly to my address: jsandham77@gmail.com That will enable me to load them onto my laptop PC well before the meeting.
3. DO NOT bring your photos on a FLASH DRIVE. That method is messy and delays the meeting for me and you.
4. Send me no more than ten (10) images each month. Be prepared to "talk to" each of the photos so we can appreciate them better.
5. Send them to me by the end of the Monday before that month's Fun Foto Social.

Contact: Jim Sandham, jsandham77@gmail.com

Comic Relief



Submission Guidelines:

Articles must be received **by the 24th** of the month to be included in the next month's newsletter

Lengthy articles may be edited to fit space. Links will be used for long articles

Articles must be submitted digitally using e-mail

Submissions must be kept to **4** photos per SIG or event. A link to member photo galleries or albums may be used.

Photographs must be legally reproducible or licensed by the member submitting the photo. Include the Photographer's Name, Photo Title, Contest/Show Entered, Placement Received

Newsletter Editor contact: Cathy O'Connor, cathy0114@gmail.com